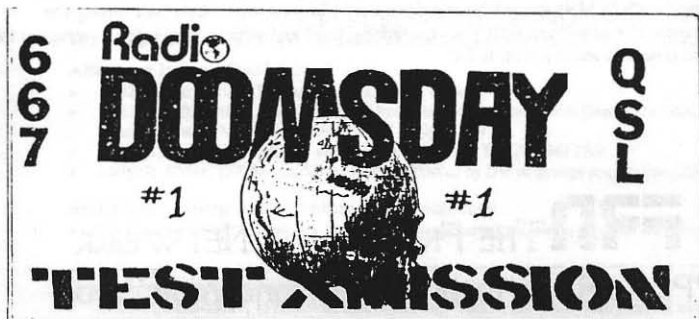


The Monthly A•C•E

The Official Bulletin of the Association of Clandestine
Radio Enthusiasts

Since 1982 • September 2001

In Memoriam



Kirk Trummel

1963 — 2001

The Managing Editor's Page

By Harry Helms

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As the cover indicates, pirate radio and the ACE lost a devoted supporter in August with the death from cancer of Kirk Trummel. Long-time members will remember him as the editor of Dialogs before Lee Reynolds. He was the author of *The Pirate Radio Survival Guide* and co-founded the Free Radio Network. And he also tried his hand at some actual on-air pirate radio, including Radio Doomsday. The QSL illustrating this month's cover is from Chris Lobdell. How about some of you pirate operators who are reading these words plan something special in Kirk's memory this Halloween?

I have to apologize to Bud Stacey for the absence of his column this month. He got it to me in plenty of time and in fine shape, but space restrictions this month prevent me from including it.

September is the month when the air gets cooler and the leaves start to turn—unless, of course, you live where I do—and that means a new DX season is at hand. Why not report some of your pirate catches here? And I renew my pleas for pirate ops to at least consider using the 25-26 MHz range this fall. If you used FM, you could likely hide among the commercial studio-transmitter links operational there and achieve worldwide coverage at the same time. It's worth a shot, folks!

FRN THE FREE RADIO NETWORK

"Pirate Radio Invades the World Wide Web!"



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- ✓Photos
- ✓QSLs
- ✓The ACE
- ✓Chat
- ✓News
- ✓The Grapevine
- ✓Over 1000 Links

DIALOGS September 2001

Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130

Email: lreynolds@cyberportal.net

ICQ# 60166326/4139354

(Next deadline for submissions: September 21st, 2001)

LATE LOGS

Alfa Lima International (Hoogeven)

- 07/15/01, 2335-0000+, 15070A – mx – Peter Frampton. IDs and phone numbers by OM announcer. (BS-AL 153)
- 07/21/01, 0135-0153+, 15070A – mx – Moody Blues, Techno. (JS-NE)

Mystery Science Radio (A.C.E.)

- 06/30/01, 0905-0925, 6955U – Fargo broadcasting from his Yellow Submarine, sitting in for Cherokee Jack. Lots of clips from MST3K, shark wrestling and "Using Speech". Signoff by Fargo included "Rest in peace, MST3K" and farewells to the MST3K crew. (Pse QSL JB-QLD 434) (Hey, Jack – this boy sent a nice report on you and said all kind of nice things about the show – send him a card!)

Radio Bingo (radiobingo@chek.com)

- 07/19/01, 0205-0229*, 6955U – a bingo game with clips of Captain Ron, Alan Masyga and Steve Anderson (of United Patriot Radio.) Steve won. (CL-MA 343)
- 07/19/01, 0306+, 6900U – a repeat of the earlier show. (CL-MA 232)

Sycko Radio (psycoradiohd@yahoo.com?)

- 07/21/01, 0432-0446+, 6955U – doing some station work, didn't realize he was on the air. (JS-NE) (Well, we're all lucky he wasn't reading the A.C.E. where the typical member does then, eh?)

FROM ACROSS THE POND

Alfa Lima International (Hoogeven)

- 07/22/01, 0605-0610+, 15070A – mx – Eminem. (CL-MA)
- 07/29/01, 0030-0405+, 15070A – host Alfred talking on the phone with Dave in the USA, sending greetings to other NA Pirate Dxers. (CL-MA 333) (RD-PA)
- 08/05/01, 0305-0320, 15070A – mx – pop. Alfred giving IDs. (CL-MA 232)
- 08/19/01, 0300+, 15070A – usual mx types – QRM'ed by DW or strange propagation. (JS-NE)

Radio Black Arrow (radioblackarrow@hotmail.com)

- 08/11/01, *0353-0410, 15807A – Sign on with instrumental mx, oldies pop, OM announcer. (CL-MA 121)

Radio Borderhunter (Baarle-Hertog)

- 07/28/01, 0400-0500+, 15795L – on with IS, testing, "Hello", mx – American pop/rock oldies and talk. (GM-FL 322) (JS-NE 444)
- 08/05/01, 0430-0500+, 15795L – mx – "Living on my Own" and dance. Weak. (JS-NE)

Radio Free London (London)

- 07/29/01, 0040-0400+, 5805A – (on with a break) – mx – pop. Many IDs. (CL-MA)
- 08/04/01, 0315-0406, 5800A – mx – Carol King, CCR. Numerous IDs. (RD-PA)

NORTH/SOUTH AMERICAN LOGGINGS

Crunch Radio (A.C.E./FRN)

- 08/19/01, 0300-0325+, 6950A – mx – "Sugartime", "My Heart Reminds Me". (AF 423) (JS-NE)

KIPM (Elkhorn)

- 08/11/01, 0049-0210, 6955U – "The Truth". Al forwards his mail to God. (GM-CT 333) (FM-NH 333) (JS-NE)
- 08/11/01, 0210-0312*, 6955U – "The Clockwork". Our host and Nikola Tesla keep things balanced. (GM-CT 344) (CL-MA 343) (GZ-OH 353) (RD-PA) (AF 523) (JS-NE)
- 08/11/01, 0336+, 6945U – "He Who Shrank". (JS-NE)
- 08/11/01, 0626-0837*, 6955(U?) – mx – Floyd. "Monsters of the Mind" show followed shortly after by a new show – "The Clockwork". (JB-QLD 555)
- 08/11/01, *0840-1020*, 6950(U?) – "He Who Shrank" followed by a repeat. (JB-QLD 555)
- 08/11/01, 1055-1235*, 6955(U?) – "The Clockwork" followed by a repeat. (JB-QLD 555)
- 08/11/01, 1900-2200, 17485, 17500, 17605 (U?) – testing on 16m, 17605 was best. (JS-NE)

- 08/12/01, *0008-0052*, 6955U – “The Adversary”. Transmission interrupted by a thunderstorm. (GM-CT 333)(GZ-OH 242)(JS-NE)
- 08/12/01, 0130-0408+, 6955U – “The Clockwork” followed by repeats of various shows. (GM-CT 434)(GZ-OH 343)
- 08/12/01, 0657-1014*, 6950(U?) – “He Who Shrank” followed by “The Clockwork” and then back into a repeat of “He Who Shrank”. (Pse QSL JB-QLD 544)

Mystery Science Radio (A.C.E.)

- 08/11/01, 0315-0334, 6945U – Andy Kaufman tribute, mx by R.E.M. (FM-NH 333)(AF 423)(JS-NE)
- 08/11/01, 1024-1045, 6955U – the Kaufman tribute show. Included “Mighty Mouse” theme, CJ advising listeners to send reports to the A.C.E. Newsletter and Cherokee Jack saying “No obscenities on the radio!” (Pse QSL SD-NSW 434)
- 08/11/01, 2346-0008*, 6955U – mx – pop and instrumental. OM gave ID and thanked audience for listening. (GZ-OH 242)(Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 08/12/01, 1230-1250, 6949U – a repeat of the Kaufman tribute. (Pse QSL SD-NSW 434)(Pse QSL JB-QLD 555)

Paragon Radio (Unknown)

- 07/28/01, 0300-0322+, 6955U – mx – jazz. Testing new station. OM announcer stated he would be programming for the “older listeners”. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 08/12/01, 0229-0246*, 6940U – mx – gospel. A merchant visits the Zen Master. (AF 322)

Radio Bingo (radiobingo@check.com)

- 07/29/01, 0302-0317*, 6955U – Bingo games, clips of Pirate Ops and Steve Anderson. Gave Merlin drop address. (GZ-OH 353)
- 08/22/01, 0202, 6945L – mx – “Manic Depression”. (AF 444)

Radio Free Smog (Wellsville)

- 08/05/01, 1611-1635+, 17490U – mx – Marijuana. Ad for 20th anniversary of Pot Wars. (JS-NE)

Radio KAOS (Unknown)

- 08/01/01, 0050-0153*, 6955U – mx – “Comfortably Numb”, “I go to Pieces”, “Fat Bottomed Girls”, “Born to be Wild”. OM announcer mentions “K-A-O-S - Murder Capitol of the World” and former D.C. mayor Marion Barry. Toppy-sounding signal – needed more bass response in it. (AF 343)(Pse QSL PL-NY)(Pse QSL LR-NH 545)

Radio Neptune Universal Service (Blue Ridge Summit)

- 07/30/01, 0415-0425, 6950U – replay of program #8. (JS-NE)

SYCKO Radio (psycoradiohd@yahoo.com?)

- 07/26/01, 0247-0315+, 6955U – Pyscos’ rules of the Pirate ship, lovers of commercial radio to walk the plank. (JS-NE)
- 07/29/01, *0240-0252*, 6955U – many repeated IDs and a short sermon by Willy the Pirate. (GZ-OH 353)
- 07/29/01, 0325-0340+, 6955U – clips from earlier broadcasts and a Cheech and Chong imitation. (GZ-OH 353)
- 08/05/01, 0407-0514, 6955U – testing a new setup, stream of consciousness stuff (AF 433)(JS-NE)
- 08/05/01, 0530-0540+, 6955U – mx – rock. Announcing email address as well. (CL-MA 343)
- 08/06/01, 0258, 6955U – mx – headbanger variety. (AF 131)
- 08/11/01, *0311-0358*, 6955U – “The Adventures of Shortwave Man” and the “International Shortwave” jingle (which has become a signature of this station.) (RD-PA)(AF 322)
- 08/12/01, 0306, 6945U – mx – “Happiness is a warm Gun”, “Look Sharp”, “Manic Depression” and a bingo game. (AF 322)
- 08/12/01, 0432, 6955U – a clip from Mystery Science Radio, repeated email address. (AF 333)
- 08/12/01, 1402, 6950U – mx, “am I ripped” (AF 333)

(Note: I did some testing of the email addresses for this station – neither syckradio, psycordio, psycoradio, psycoradio nor psycordio (all at yahoo.com) work, the psycoradiohd address didn’t bounce but neither have I gotten a reply some days later..... Hey! Psycor! Email me what the definitive email address and spelling of your station name is, will ya?????)

The Voice of Captain Ron Shortwave (captainronswr@yahoo.com)

- 07/28/01, 0112-0119*, 6950U – mx, ID’s, repeated words and statements. (GM-FL 343)

United Patriot Militia Bingo (yahwehradio6955@hotmail.com)

- 08/01/01, 0225, 6955L – As in report for 08/04/01. (AF 322)
- 08/04/01, 0117-0209*, 6955U – mx – Beatles, The Vapors. Bingo, Steve Anderson wins. Prayer for DXers. Troubles with balls.....(Pse QSL FM-NH 444)(GZ-OH 343)(AF 444)
- 08/05/01, 0034-0042*, 6900U – mx – Beatles. Captain Ron clips. (AF 343)
- 08/09/01, 0147-0205, 6955U – Major Steve Anderson with a bingo game using a board donated by Captain Ron. Fiscal woes. (Pse QSL JS-NE) (John may have messed up his times on this one.)
- 08/20/01, 0031, 6953A – mx – “Happiness is a Warm Gun”, “Seven Bridges Road”, Wreck of Old 97”. (AF 322)

WAIR (A.C.E./FRN)

- 08/12/01, 1258-1322*, 6950U – light mx, host Robert J. Darkbrown/Yardbrown?, tribute to Neil Young and Indy mx covers of his tunes inc. “Down by the River” and “Albuquerque”. (Pse QSL GM-FL 344)(Pse QSL JB-QLD 555)(Pse QSL JS-NE)

WKUE (Hawaii?)

- 07/28/01, 0410-0423, 6955U – mx – Leo Sayer, Trashmen, Who. Host “Laughing Bill” with jokes about salad. ID of “Greatest hits of all time, 74, WKUE!” (AF 343)(Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 08/12/01, 0408, 6953L – mx – “Ramblin’ Man”, “I can Dance”, host Laughing Bill. Technical problems. (AF 422)

TENTATIVE/UNIDENTIFIED

Crunche Radio?

- 08/13/01, 0319, 6950A – old-time mx, piano, female vocalist. No ID. (AF 322)

KYBP?

- 08/21/01, 0109-0125, 6955U/CW – CW and mx (MIDI-generated?) mixed together. OM announcer gave KYBP ID and email address. (GM-CT 131)

UNID

- 08/04/01, 0015-0020+, 6955U – country mx. Very weak. (Pse QSL JS-NE)
- 08/19/01, 0147, 6955A – country mx. (AF 311)
- 08/22/01, 0049, 6945A – mx – “Groove is in the Heart”. Strong signal but low modulation. (AF 533)

CONTRIBUTORS/PLEASE QSL

Al Fansome (AF)

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 Chris Lobdell, Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180 (CL-MA)
 Greg Majewski, 1176 Route 163, Oakdale, CT 06370 (GM-CT)
 Fred Moe, 36 West Main Street, Warner, NH 03278 (FM-NH)
 Greg Myers, P.O. Box 20112, St. Petersburg, FL 33742 (GM-FL)
 Lee Reynolds, 53 Unity Springs Road, Lempster, NH 03605-3130
 John Sedlacek, 2728 North 45th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68104-4527 (JS-NE)
 Bud Stacey, Alabama (BS-AL)
 George Zeller, 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, OH 44111 (GZ-OH)

RAMBLINGS

Oh boy, what a month it’s been – one thing after another and then, to top it all, the A.C.E. limo broke down. I believe I managed to get just about all the reports down in good order and with fair accuracy – if I didn’t, well, bear with me – it really has been a chaotic month here.

It’s getting towards the Fall, folks – that means improved propagation and it’s time to start thinking about getting the antenna work done in between the end of mosquito season and the start of snow season! I have quite a few antenna-related tasks to get out of the way before it starts to turn too cold. (Of course, “too cold” is a strictly relative term – I do recall trying to work outside one winter when the temperature was hovering around zero (that’s Fahrenheit, son, not Centigrade!) – the cable ties kept just snapping every time I tried to tighten ‘em up.....yup, and I’m too dumb to come in out of the rain sometimes!)

Bud Stacey is a new contributor, just getting back after being inactive for a long time – nice to hear from you, Bud! Nothing heard of late from Marina Pappas and Zeke Russell – probably just sitting out the summer doldrums. We do have some reports from Australian listeners this month – it’s the latter part of their winter so conditions for listening down there probably aren’t too bad right now.

Observation – Radio KAOS were S9+30-40dB up in my neck of the woods. Either they’re graduates of the KIPM School of Electrical Engineering or they bought KKKVI’s old transmitter!

Kirk Trummel 1963-2001

On a somber note, Kirk Trummel – a former editor of this column and a major contributor to the hobby – passed away recently due to cancer. He was the ripe old age of 38. That's bad. Very bad. I had hoped to get a few lines written by people who were close to him (I was only a nodding acquaintance) but deadlines and emotional distress amongst his close friends dictated that this just wasn't possible. John Cruzan – an associate and close friend of Kirk – has penned a nice memorial to Kirk which can be found on the FRN web site.

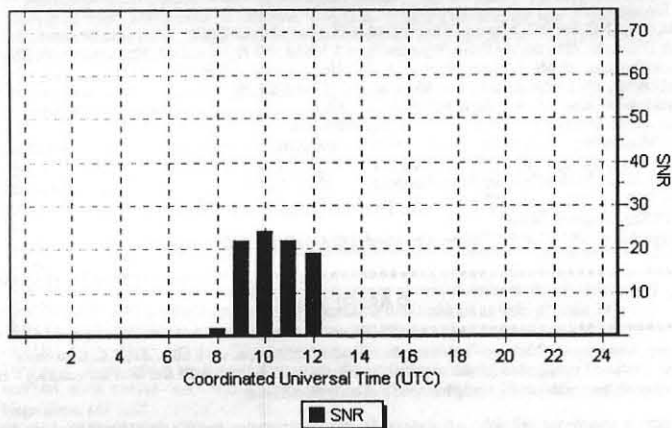
Go read it, be aware that we've lost someone important to the hobby.

Pace, Kirk!

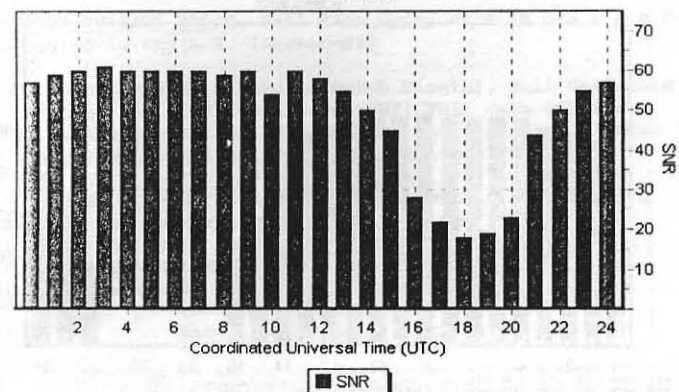
PROPAGATION

Well, this month I cover the usual intra-USA propagation paths – I note that things are improving – and also we take a look at how well what software predicts for an Australian path coincides with what people actually hear down under. It's not too far off, I'd say.....

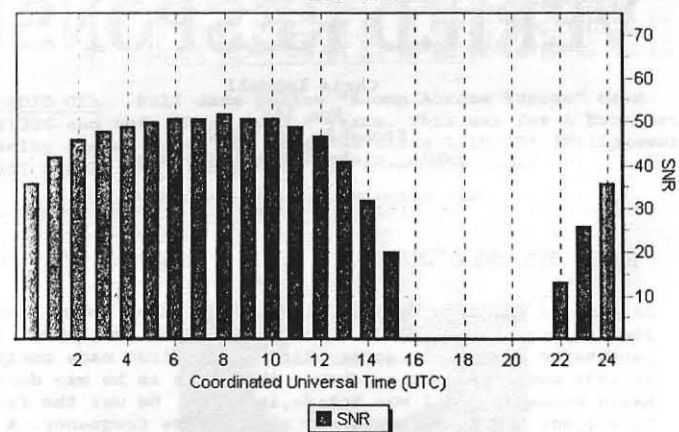
Sep. 2001 Flux: 177 SSN: 134 K: N/A
Philadelphia - Adelaide
6.955 Mhz



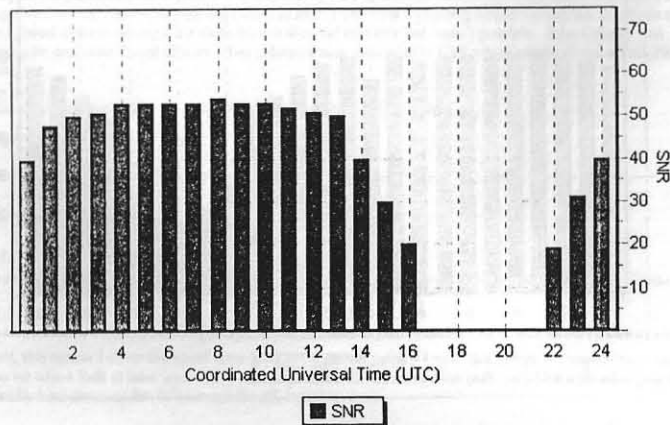
Sep. 2001 Flux: 177 SSN: 134 K: N/A
Kansas City - Philadelphia
6.955 Mhz



Sep. 2001 Flux: 177 SSN: 134 K: N/A
Los Angeles - Philadelphia
6.955 Mhz



Sep. 2001 Flux: 177 SSN: 134 K: N/A
Los Angeles - Kansas City
6.955 Mhz



VERIED RESPONSE

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NEXT COLUMN DEADLINE: September 19th.

KIRK TRUMMEL JUNE 3, 1963 - AUGUST 15, 2001

As many of you already know, the pirate DXing hobby lost an icon on August 15th, 2001. Kirk Trummel lost his battle with pancreatic and liver cancer. Kirk and I first made contact in 1992 and that continued over the years as he was doing Radio Doomsday and I was active in NAPRS. He was the first to suggest the use of 6955 kHz as a pirate frequency. A true friend and a friend of the pirate hobby in general. I will miss him, but he will never be forgotten. For more information on Kirk's life and contribution to the pirate scene, visit: www.frn.net/kirk

Sorry about the missing column last month, but no one sent in any QSL info, so I thought it best that Harry Helms use the space for a better purpose. Thanks for all your reports this month!

On to the reports:

ALAN IVERSON WORLDWIDE. 6950 LSB, Full data QSL sheet in 9 days for a logging posted at www.frn.net. [Lerner-NY]

GROUND ZERO RADIO. 6955, full data black & white exploding antenna card in 7 months for a report to Box 109, BRS, PA

17214 from Texas Pete. [Lobdell-MA] full data QSL in 9 months from Texas Pete. [Sedlacek-NE]

MYSTERY SCIENCE RADIO. Full data Gypsy card in one month for a logging in the ACE. [Lerner-NY]

RADIO BORDERHUNTER. [Belgium/Dutch Pirate], full data card in 14 days for US \$2.00 [Lerner-NY] Full data QSL sheet with female pirate and her treasure and a personal letter in 2 weeks for a snail mail report. [Sedlacek-NE]

RADIO FREE LONDON [English Pirate]. 5805, date/frequency card in 2 weeks for a taped report. Power 40 watts. [Lobdell-MA] 5805, email QSL in a few hours for a report sent to 5805@radiofreelondon.co.uk from Dave Small at flashbackradio48@cwctv.net. [D'Angelo-PA]

RADIO FREE LONDON'S QSL CARD



RADIO USA. Full data yellow "Stomp Across Europe" card #1336 and info sheet in 3.5 years. This was for a European Relay and my first QSL received since 1/10/00! [Filipkowski-RI] Thanks Joe, I hope you get more QSLs soon!

VOICE OF CAPTAIN RON SHORTWAVE. Hand made full data post card in 1 month for an email report. [Sedlacek-NE]

GROUND ZERO RADIO QSL



PLUTONIUM ENRICHED PIRATE RADIO

DATE: 12-25-00 QSL#: 046
TIME: 1410 VERIFIED: TP
FREQUENCY: 6955

Many thanks to the following contributors. Rich D'Angelo-PA, Joe Filipkowski-RI, Paul Lerner-NY, and John Sedlacek-NE.

Veried Response presents another A*C*E Special feature:

Free Radio Statistics

formerly: The Scoreboard

updated 18 August 2001

KEY:

NAm = North American Pirate QSLs, to include Canada

For = Foreign Pirate QSLs, outside NAm

dif = number of different stations represented

Tot = total different Pirate QSLs, NAm + For

name-state	--pirates--			-cland-	
	NAm/dif	For/dif	Tot	tot/dif	best QSL
R Brandt-DL	146/82	1363/787	869	16/10	KTVI/VotRock
J Filipkowski-RI	695/334	37/32	366		KMOM panties
G Zeller-OH	500/352	10/10	362	8/8	WHBH bust
N Wolfish-ONT	459/294	14/10	304		R Condon Intl
J Arthur-NY	518/280	22/18	298	4/4	SML Ltd
T Provance-OH	430/251	21/16	267	14/11	Vo Acid
E Cronkright-MI	227/227	9/9	236		KAT
E Rausch-NJ	266/201	22/17	218		LvdmTiempo/ArgosyMag
R Pfaff-VA	198/192	21/21	213		R Amazonia beercan
P Murphy-VA	248/196	19/15	211		CSIC chicken
C Smolinski-MD	180/152	21/15	201	2/2	VoVoyager bust
J Coatsworth-ONT	213/173	26/20	193		KMOM
R Ross-ONT	200+/151	35/26	177	50/37	KIWI
C Crawford-KY	290/156	2/2	158		Car Show
E Kusalik-ALT	185/116	26/24	148	103/64	Anteater license plt
R Hunsicker-PA	201/138	2/2	140		WPN mug
B Stacey-AL	262/136	2/2	138		Zepplin R WW
R Comeau-MA	115/	22/	137		Partial India Radio
Y Lewis-IL	178/112	20/12	124		JRR - 6229
C Lobdell-MA	90/75	29/27	102		R Mi Amigo
J Rose-VA	189/93	11/7	100		R Korak Intl
J McWilliams-PA	121/79	15/13	92		XEROX
A Spremo-NY	138/83	13/8	91	1/1	all of them
S Gentry-IL	129/77	6/3	80		KMCR
R D'Angelo-PA	69/63	18/15	78	29/27	HeMan R
S Rogovich-VA	56/52	2/2	54		R Clandestine
V Havrilko-FL	56/39	14/12	51		R USA
S Foehner-NY	54/34		39		WORK
G Harkins-ONT	46/29		29		WGLR
G Lytle-TX	32/26	6/1	27		KIWI
B Wooten-GA	16/13		13		
C Cuomo-PA	11/10		10		
H Short-MA?	10/9		9		R Garbanzo

The ACE QSL Statistics appear in the Jan., May, and Sept. editions of Veried Response. Kindly update your totals in January, April, July, and/or October for inclusion; mail them to: ACE Stats, PO Box 146, Stoneham, MA 02180. Please note that the ACE Stats are *only* available to A*C*E members!

CLANDESTINE PROFILE

by George Zeller

Your loggings, information, and speculations about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2100 UTC weekdays. E-mail input is welcome via my georgez@nacs.net address, with <http://www.nacs.net/~georgez> providing access to my web page.

UNITED PATRIOT RADIO REMAINS ACTIVE

ANOTHER RECORD BROKEN FOR LONGEST RUN BY USA CLANDESTINE

After a month of fairly steady activity, things seem to have returned to "normal" at United Patriot Radio. Their activity is not always daily, but they have been heard on a consistent basis for most of the days in the second half of July and the first half of August. Normally they are on 6900 kHz in upper sideband mode, but Bud Stacey noted them a month ago on 6880 kHz at 0210 UTC on July 14. In more recent days the 6900 kHz channel has been their exclusive home, but this is of course subject to change pending future developments.

I've seen plenty of loggings of United Patriot Radio on 6900 kHz. Rich D'Angelo and I pulled one in on August 18 at 0200 while testing my Ten Tec 340 receiver at a remote site. They gave occasional ID's even during relays of other shows such as the "Yahweh" program. Gary Neal heard them on 6900U on July 31 at 01:45-02:00 UTC. He noted an ID during the commercials when they asked for donations via Steve Anderson. There have been numerous other loggings of the station. If you tune in for an hour or so before or after 0200 UTC on 6900U, you can't miss them on most nights. The signal remains a powerhouse.

Some sideshows continue with the patriot movement and developments at the station. For instance, our own Tom Sevart forwarded the following message:

"As Steve Anderson began his show Friday night, he paused to take a phone call...he came back on the air to say that the caller was Charlie Puckett. Anderson reported that "a major shake-up is in progress" within the Kentucky State Militia. Puckett was said to have indicated that a split has occurred over Puckett's appearance as host of the "Militia Hour" earlier in the week. As a result of these internal problems, Puckett has canceled the Aug. 10-12 training. Anderson reported that this will not effect UPR and that those who left KSM will regret it. He felt it was time for the whiners and paper pushers to leave anyway. Anderson said he will get a hold of his people, including the KY Riflemen Militia and come to Puckett's aid. He said that Puckett has "had it" with the whiners, the "toilet paper militia" folks. (non-serious participants)." But, a note via Tom Sevart from "Bonnie" on the next day said that, "Steve Anderson announced tonight over United Patriot Radio that Charlie Puckett "worked things out" and the KSM multi-state gathering will go forward after all, Aug. 10-12, at Charlie Puckett's place."

Meanwhile, an August 4 posting by W. Williams of Michigan in *Cumbre DX* relayed later by both Glenn Hauser's *DXLD* and Martin Schoech's *Clandestine Radio Watch* claimed that "UPR Steve Anderson is a government plant." We might as well quote this material, despite its bizarre nature: "So far he has obtained great results with his pseudo macho dribble. He just took a call from Charlie Puckett (obviously it was staged, because for past couple of nights, Anderson has been dropping comments regards some major militia info he would be announcing) and according to Anderson, Puckett said that a major split had occurred in the Kentucky State Militia and it was due to Puckett taking the mic at Anderson's the other nite. Anderson's effort is working to cause rifts in the militia. I provided twenty two years to the U. S. military --- dedicated to true patriotism (if that is a word anymore) in defense of the good old U.S.A. And, although I now am retired and sit back and do a lot of watching and listening, there are millions of vets in our society that truly ARE patriots. I cannot speak for them, but I have a deep- hearted feeling that they "to the core" are patriots and would find little or no substance in many of the UPR comments. Me personally, I find the macho comments frequently made on "United Patriot Radio" a bit too Walter Mittish for me. But then, "freedom of speech" makes the world work."

Moving further, Tom Sevart comments, "I still can't believe that CRW & co. consider UPR to be a political pirate rather than a clandestine. They claim that since there's no political backing, then it's not a clandestine. However, it appears that Anderson has the support of numerous "patriots" out there. In fact, the appearance of Charlie Puckett on the station this week should show that he has at least some backing, even though the KSM officially doesn't support the station. But if Anderson has the support of the Kentucky Riflemen Militia or the United America Party that he always advertises, then it would appear that he has the backing of some political movement."

It's interesting to note that although both *Clandestine Radio Watch* and *Cumbre DX* have both officially reclassified United Patriot Radio as a pirate rather than a clandestine, they both continue to cover them as clandestines. In the judgment of your editor, the coverage actions of CRW and *Cumbre* are clearly correct, although their reclassification seems to have little merit. This raises the interesting (if trivial) point that the official policy of *Cumbre DX* has always been to overtly prohibit the coverage of pirates in its pages. This policy was the reason why *Free Radio Weekly* was created in the first place. Yet, despite the continuing classification of UPR as a pirate by *Cumbre*, that newsletter continues to cover news from the station. The *Cumbre* coverage has been excellent, and I hope that it continues. But, as Tom Severt notes above, it raises an interesting internal contradiction within *Cumbre DX*.

In another matter, in a July 26 UPR logging in *Free Radio Weekly*, John Sedlacek of Nebraska said that Steve Anderson quoted a considerable amount of coverage of UPR from *The ACE*, noting that we have printed some inaccuracies at times, and expressing some puzzlement about who Jimmy the Weasel is. Perhaps United Patriot Militia Bingo can include some Jimmy the Weasel material in their shows, so that Steve Anderson might be able to expand his awareness of the North American pirate radio scene. In case Steve is reading this again, Jimmy the Weasel is noted for his off-key singing, notably his rendition of "God Damn You, You Are Through." The song title is not directed at UPR, but is instead directed at Jimmy's "sorry" listeners and their immediate female relatives. Jimmy's reputation for irascible cynicism is well established in pirate radio circles.

In any event, if this doesn't sound interesting to you, then you're probably not interested in pirate or clandestine radio. The rest of us would be well advised to check out Steve Anderson's United Patriot Radio on 6900 kHz.

NEW STAR BROADCASTING STATION

Veteran DXers Rich D'Angelo, Dan Henderson, and Harald Kuhl paint a picture this month of activity from New Star Broadcasting Station. This clandestine is famous for its combination of anti-China programming combined with coded numbers messages. Dan notes that while he was in Australia earlier this year, the station came in at armchair levels. Reception can be more dicey here in North America, but it is far from an impossible catch.

Rich D'Angelo, via DXplorer and direct, heard the numbers from this one by a female announcer in Chinese on 13750 kHz July 10 from 1115-1120 UTC and 1159-1208 UTC. The material after 1200 was a repeat of the first program, with a clear ID and Chinese music at the beginning. Rich noted a poor signal, but reception was not too bad because the broadcast was in the clear.

At this point, things got interesting. Rich sent a report for this logging to Radio Taipei International. RTI does not officially acknowledge sponsorship for New Star Broadcasting Station, but there seems little doubt that Taiwan is responsible for the broadcasts. In 30 days, Rich's mailman delivered a QSL from RTI to Rich's door. This QSL for their 7210 kHz broadcast was accompanied by a "nice package of stuff (newspaper, stickers, schedule, commemorative stamps of Inauguration of the Tenth President and Vice President, etc)." But, Rich notes that there was nothing in this big package to indicate that the mailing related in any way to New Star Broadcasting Service. Harald Kuhl, via DXplorer, also notes that he tried a similar tactic with a report to China Radio International a few years ago for one of the Kampuchea clandestines. He got similar results, with a QSL from China Radio International that did not mention the clandestine from Kampuchea.

These replies show that the station staff in both China and Taiwan seem anxious to respond to correspondence from listeners. But, they also show that nobody is checking the content of the reception reports very carefully. Both Rich's QSL and Harald's QSL are interesting oddities, although neither Rich or Harald classify these as anything other than "almost and maybe" QSL's.

RADIO IMPACTO SUCCESSOR ASSASSINATED

Veteran DXer Don Moore's Petapluma web site is a well known fixture in our hobby. His current <http://donmoore.tripod.com> URL is the place to go for Don's very informative shortwave radio information. Via DXplorer, Don relays the following message that he received about the assassination of Parmenio Medina, who purchased the medium wave license of CIA-sponsored Radio Impacto in Costa Rica. Don notes the following, "The Higuera tree which died is the one which was part of Radio Impacto's mailing address. More interesting is that the Costa Rican radio journalist who was assassinated a few days ago is the person who bought Radio Impacto's MW station when they closed down."

The message that Don received from an unlisted source says, "I lived in Costa Rica for many years, and thanks to your website, I now know that I worked about three blocks from Radio Impacto for about four of those years. (By the way, the Higuera se murió -- it has been replaced by a baby fig tree that doesn't seem to thrive on car exhaust fumes yet. However, for the past eight years directions have changed to: "From the ex-higuera"). I stumbled onto your website when looking for information about Parmenio Medina (the man who bought the remains of Radio Impacto). He was assassinated a few days ago in Costa Rica, after receiving death threats for his controversial radio program. This is the first assassination of a political nature in Costa Rica since 1948. His radio program, "La Patada" constantly poked fun at political figures and publicly revealed political corruption. It ran for over 30 years. It is very ironic that he became the owner of the equipment that once broadcast Radio Impacto."

KIRK TRUMMEL: 1964-2001

We have an extremely sad piece of news to relay. Janice Laws forwards word that longtime pirate radio DXer and free radio supporter Kirk Trummel passed away in August at the age of 37. She notes that he died of pancreatic and liver cancer. Kirk's wish was that memorial contributions should be sent to the Sloane Kettering Institute for Cancer Research. She also forwards a phone number for the funeral home, which can relay memorial contribution information if you are interested. The number is (217) 935-3166. Additional information on this shocking development is posted on the Free Radio Network web site, using their normal <http://www.frn.net/> URL.

Janice notes, and I concur, that Kirk was a great contributor to the free radio scene and the Free Radio Network. His contributions to pirate radio were numerous. Kirk did an outstanding job as the DiaLogs column editor in *The ACE*. His *The Black Book* worldwide address list for pirate radio stations was at one time the most comprehensive source for Europirates and other free radio stations. He also was a co-author of *The Pirate Radio Survival Guide*. With John Cruzan he founded the Free Radio Network, which remains the best pirate radio web site in the whole world. He was involved in the production of several pirate radio stations, most notably Radio Doomsday. Although not widely known, he was responsible for the most notorious QSL in the history of shortwave radio, which was issued for a while by Spam Radio. His on-air name of Nemesis is one that will never fade away from the free radio scene.

Many supporters of free radio knew Kirk for a very long time, and many ACE members were lucky enough to meet him personally at the Kulpville Winter SWL Festival. Very few individuals had as strong a commitment to pirate radio and free expression as Kirk Trummel had. He used his talents over and over to expand the scope of our hobby. As a result, he is certainly missed by all of us. I'll close with the words of Owsley of Up Against the Wall Radio, "He was my friend and I'll miss him."

GUY ATKINS ON TNFM

Veteran DXer Guy Atkins from the Pacific Northwest sent in a logging of KIPM. Of course, this is a pirate, not a clandestine, and Guy is by no means the only west coast DXer who has logged Alan Maxwell's powerhouse pirate. I've seen worldwide loggings of KIPM; they are really getting out with their marathons. But, Guy noted that this was one of the first pirates that he has heard since TNFM. He said that TNFM openly claimed to broadcast from Salt Spring Island, British Columbia, in Canada. I checked my own log

book and found that TNFM was one pirate that I never managed to verify. In return, Guy sends in the following station attachment that he received with his TNFM QSL. It's certainly going to be of interest to many longtime ACE members.

GREETINGS LISTENERS: Please excuse this "form letter" approach, but due to the great number of letters that the station has received, this is far simpler for replying.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Our transmissions-- currently mono and delivers 15 watts to a highly directive antenna system atop a 90' tower. E.R.P. is theoretically 240 watts aimed at the more populated areas of the Gulf Islands. Our programming is generally aimed toward "young adult" listeners and consists mainly of hits from the 60's, 70's and 80's as well as comedy, local commentary, requests, and some surprises.... Our hours are 8P.M. to after 12 midnight P.T. occasional evenings.

AM transmissions (shortwave)-- O.K. it's time to "fess up". Yours truly is entirely responsible for the SW broadcasts of TNFM. The transmitter is a B&W 5100. This unit works fine with no modifications on 41, 22, and 19 meters and delivers 150-180 AM watts. The antenna is a simple cut-to-frequency dipole approx. 70' above ground.

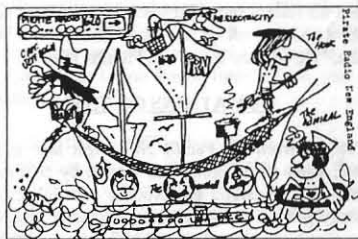
A BRIEF HISTORY:: TNFM was born atop a Kenmore automatic washer and dryer one rainy, cold November 12th afternoon 1982. There I discovered that connecting a wireless microphone to a cable amplifier and an ordinary Radio Shack FM antenna would send a signal approx. 2-4 miles. Well, needless to say the thing grew, in power and popularity. Alas, May 19, 1984 the Feds shut 'er down due to some profanities some other irresponsible persons said on the air. I tried for a local license which was an all too formidable a task. Then, in the summer of 1985, I found the B&W. "The Power Station", or KQRO, operated sporadically until last winter. At that point, I just couldn't resist any longer and fired up the old TNFM again with excellent response. I got so carried away that I tried something I had dreamed of for the last few months - a simulcast on FM and SW which proved to be of great interest to both groups of listeners! My phone has never rung so much. The station is funded by my own paycheck; an expensive hobby and worth it. So there's the story in a nutshell. I have enclosed a TNFM sticker, and a KQRO QSL card (have 250 of the darn' things) to confirm your reception.

ALAN P. MASYGA ON BBC

Veteran ACE member Alan P. Masyga checked in this month to report that because he works on the "graveyard shift," he can't report as often as he used to. He also says that he has no e-mail capability to communicate with pirates who request responses by that route. But, he adds his support to the criticism of the incredibly horrible decision making process at the British Broadcasting Corporation during the last couple of months.

THANKS!

The input of ACE members and other DXers is vitally important to this column, and to all other ACE columns. We thank Martin Schoech (Germany), Bud Stacey (Alabama), Tom Severt (Kansas), Alan P. Masyga (Minnesota), Don Moore (Iowa), DXplorer listserv, Janice Laws (Quebec), Jerry Coatsworth (Ontario), Harald Kuhl (Germany), Dan Henderson (Maryland), Gary Neal (Texas), Owsley (United States), and George Zeller (Ohio) for providing material. Next month we all hope to hear from YOU by September 16 for the October *Clandestine Profile*.



Pirate radio New England QSL from the collection of Ullis R. Fleming

Covert Comms



By Tom Severt

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Last month I commented on some E6 & E17 test transmissions I heard on 8157. On the 13th of August I found an open carrier on 6866 kHz, and within a few minutes I heard the YL/EE E17 voice come on repeating 989. Sure enough, it was yet another test transmission. The strange thing about this broadcast was that in between starting & stopping, there was an audio tone on the carrier. It's somewhat unusual for these Russian stations to use tones. They certainly don't use tones in their regular broadcasts, but this was obviously a test broadcast.

The message number used in this broadcast was 583, and there were 30 groups in the message. This has varied in the different test transmissions I've heard. It makes one wonder if they just pick a message number at random & use dummy message groups, or if they're actually using old message groups for the tests. Of course it's not really a smart idea to use actual message groups for a test broadcast.

It seems that recently I've heard more test transmissions from these Russian stations than actual message broadcasts.

Hugh Stegman of California (and editor of *Monitoring Times' Utility World* column) recently reported hearing an odd FSK station on 7984.6 sending random CW. It sounded as if someone had an old "bug" keyer and was practicing sending Morse code. The signal was also found later on 5345.42, 9084.6, and 9439.6 kHz, all simulkeyed. The signals seem to be active 24 hours a day. In fact, as I write this, 7984.6 and 9084.6, & 9439.6 are active with fairly good signals here in SE Kansas.

The signals appear to be some sort of random CW, but the dits & dahs don't form any coherent CW pattern. It seems more likely to be some sort of low speed data signal at around 18 baud. The 850 Hz shift used by the station is a popular frequency shift for RTTY signals. Also, it appears that the mark/space occasionally alternates. Most likely it is some sort of encrypted RTTY.

The other main question we have about this signal is, where are the transmitters located? Since the signals are strong in North America around the clock, it's a sure bet that the transmitter sites are located here. Speculation has the transmitters as being located on the west coast of the US, possibly at the NCS at Stockton, CA. Some crude DF bearings have been taken, but so far nothing has been conclusive. If only a few more DXer's could take some DF bearings we may be able to pinpoint the transmitter location. Unfortunately, I can't do that with my vertical or random wire antennas.

Heard any unusual signals? Drop me a line here and let me know about it.

WHYP-The James Brownyard Memorial Station

From the collection of the highly esteemed and widely trusted George Zeller

the ASSOCIATION of CLANDESTINE radio ENTHUSIASTS

PO Box 1, Belfast, New York 14711-0001

The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and the theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

All subscriptions, renewals, and queries regarding subscriptions should be sent to the above club address. Contributions for each editor should be sent to their own given addresses.

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